

Although we are experiencing tough times on Capitol Hill, this bipartisan bill demonstrates that we can all come together for this great cause. I'm proud to introduce this bill to help find treatments and cures so that our nation's children will have a fighting chance to survive cancer and other rare disease. The Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0 will reaffirm our strong commitment to finding cures for childhood diseases.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOB  
FRANKLIN

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor the centennial birthday of Bob Franklin. He was born on January 25, 1921, in Dallas County, Missouri to John and Iva Franklin.

Bob graduated from Halfway High School in Polk County and served his country in World War II with the U.S. Army, which took him to the Middle East and Asia. From 1953 through 1957 he served as the sheriff of Dallas County.

Bob was also an auctioneer and owner of the Buffalo Sale Barn. He is the proud father of state Senator Sandy Crawford, Dr. Tama Franklin, and his son Randy who preceded him in death. Throughout his life, Bob has dedicated himself to his family and helping his community.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Bob Franklin and his family a happy birthday as they celebrate a century of life and service to the Dallas County community.

HONORING KEVEN PARKER

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. EVANS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an influential and dedicated gentleman from Philadelphia, Keven Parker, a well-known restaurant owner and community advocate whose recent passing on January 15, 2021 has left a void in the minds and hearts of the citizens of Philadelphia.

Keven Parker was an incredible restaurateur and entrepreneur and his loss will be felt in the city of Philadelphia for years to come. He followed his mother's mission of feeding people delicious meals with restaurants on South Street, in Reading Terminal Market and operating a catering business.

Ms. Tootsie's Soul Food Cafe is a household name dedicated for his mother and her famous penchant for Tootsie's Rolls. Keven as a young child would observe and help his mother Joyce, as she would teach him the details and nuances of producing extraordinary satisfying Soul Food.

Keven was a hard working and self-made shining star entrepreneur and was one of contemporary Philadelphia's great personalities and a true visionary. He came from humble origins but strong roots. Parker grew up in West Philadelphia and became a successful businessman, overseeing six distinct entities.

Keven Parker's restaurants were well regarded and were frequented by such people as President Bill Clinton, Oprah Winfrey, Patti LaBelle, Will Smith and a host of others. His groundbreaking establishment Ms. Tootsie's on South Street was named the best Southern-Style restaurant for three years running in Black Enterprise magazine and was featured on food TV shows. The Food Network's Robert Irvine raved about his fried chicken on The Best Thing I Ever Ate.

Furthermore, Parker was committed to giving back to his community exemplified by hiring 55 individuals in his employ. The Keven Parker Company community outreach includes the Youth Adult Division, giving young men and women the opportunity to work for a progressive and upwardly mobile company while gaining valuable skills in an entrepreneurial and success-driven environment.

Keven Parker dedicated his life to uplifting and improving the lives of others. He was a model citizen. The 3rd Congressional District of Pennsylvania extends gratitude to Keven Parker for his dedicated support and service to the City of Philadelphia and we mourn with his family and friends.

IN HONOR OF ED "BUTCH" AND  
JEAN SHIFFLETT OF SOUTH BOSTON

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Ed "Butch" and Jean Shifflett, two wonderful and generous Americans from my home neighborhood of South Boston.

Butch and Jean have been model citizens and engaged members of our South Boston community for decades. Butch, a Vietnam veteran, together with his wife Jean, have been loving caretakers of St. Monica's Church, where they have welcomed those seeking a sacred place of beauty and peace. Their hospitality has made it possible for St. Monica's Church to serve as a home for the recovery community, providing a safe gathering space for those seeking freedom from addiction as well as anchoring the food pantry, where they have provided a safety net for those struggling with hunger during these difficult times.

Day or night, Butch and Jean have never failed to answer the call when a family in need has reached out for help. And they have offered more than just practical help and assistance: they have offered respect and warm goodwill, affirming the dignity of all.

Butch and Jean have never sought recognition for their service to others. But on January 24, 2021, we expressed our love and gratitude for the hope and healing they have brought to our community by naming the lower hall of the church where they have carried out their ministry in their honor.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to thank Ed "Butch" and Jean Shifflett for their decades of service to St. Monica's Church and to the families of South Boston.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote in person on Roll Call Vote No. 3, since the vote was closed prior to my assigned group being called to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 3.

COMMENDING 4EVER METAL  
ROOFING FOR ITS SUPPORT OF  
HOOSIER VETERANS

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend 4Ever Metal Roofing for its invaluable support of Hoosier Veterans, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since its founding in 2016, the company has grown to employ several Hoosier veterans, contributed \$7 million to northeast Indiana's economy, and has expanded its reach to serving the tri-state area of Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio.

However, the company's commitment to our region stretches beyond providing jobs to Hoosier veterans and services to consumers. During the pandemic, 4Ever Metal Roofing donated \$30,000 to FW22, a local non-profit focused on suicide prevention and supporting veterans suffering from PTSD and TBI. This donation went a long way to ensuring a Hoosier veteran and his family had Christmas presents this year, and the remainder of the donation will be used to support the work of FW22 as it assists many more struggling veterans in the region.

Going above and beyond to assist those in the community, especially those who fought to protect it, will always be something worth recognizing, and I commend 4Ever Metal Roofing for this selfless act of kindness. These are the kinds of partnerships that make our country great. I wish 4Ever Metal Roofing nothing but the best as they continue to grow in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING SYNDEE WOOD AS  
CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Encinitas local, Syndee Wood, as my January Constituent of the Month. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact our hospitals, small businesses, and communities in the 49th District at a devastating rate. After a friend presented Ms. Wood with an opportunity to deliver pizzas to strained ICU workers and ten different departments at Scripps hospital in Encinitas, Syndee felt gratitude and inspiration from their reaction.